

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Examiner: E. Martello
HIDEO NORO, ET AL.	)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2628
Application No.: 10/594,114	)	
	:	Confirmation No.: 7038
Filed: September 25, 2006	)	
	:	
For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD	)	June 4, 2009
AND IMAGE PROCESSING	:	
APPARATUS	)	

**Mail Stop RCE**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits and in response to the final Office Action dated March 4, 2009, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the above-identified application as follows: